

REMARKS

The above-noted amendments to the claims, as well as the submission of a revised Specification and a new Abstract, are respectfully submitted prior to the initiation of prosecution of this application in the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Claims 1-22 and 29-30 have been amended and claims 23-28 and 31 have been cancelled in order to more clearly and appropriately claim the subject matter which applicants consider to constitute their inventive contribution. No new matter is included in these amendments. In addition, the revisions to the Abstract and Specification are submitted in order to clarify and correct the Abstract and Specification and to conform them to all the requirements of U.S. practice. No new matter is included in these amendments.

In view of the above, it is respectfully requested that these amendments now be entered, and that prosecution on the merits of this application now be initiated. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe such action can be taken, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any objections which he/she may have.

Application No.: 10/532,260

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-343

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge applicant's Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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## ABSTRACT

~~The present invention provides a~~An apparatus and a method that judge whether contents recording processing is in progress and make it possible to execute reproduction processing under accurate control. A recording control process for executing contents recording processing generates reproduction synchronization management information having a reproduction synchronization management information name, which is uniquely decided from a reproduction management information name of reproduction management information, and stores the reproduction synchronization management information in a directory that is automatically erased at the time of system startup or in a volatile memory that is erased at the time of power off. A reproduction control process extracts reproduction synchronization management information on the basis of a reproduction management information name and judges whether contents to be reproduced are being recorded to execute control of a reproduction process. At the time of restart after power supply interruption, the reproduction synchronization management information is reset, and the reproduction control process is prevented from performing control misunderstanding that contents are being recorded simultaneously.